

**Broome County Peace Action  
Minutes of Meeting, November 17, 2009  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
Binghamton, New York**

**1 Welcome, Agenda Review, and Revisions**

- 1.1 The meeting was opened at 7:05 pm by Vice President, Ann Clune
- 1.2 **Board members present:** Pat Creighton, Ann Clune, Jim Clune, George Haeseler, Sue McAnanama, Jack Sexton, Len Bjorklman, George Damasevitz, Dick McLean, Michelle Dingler, , Jack Gilroy, Alan Jones
- 1.3 **Guests:** Jennifer Hyman, Stephen Schweitzer, George McAnanama, George Homanich, Judy Homanich
- 1.4 Jennifer Hyman was introduced. She is a graduate student at BU and has worked for Peace Action.

**2 Approve Minutes from October meeting**

- 2.1 The minutes were approved as e-mailed

**3 Treasurer's Report**

- 3.1 Balances: BCPA - \$1974.12, BCNWRC - \$565.98, STPMF - \$7571.24, BCWTRF - \$200.00

**4 Committee reports**

- 4.1 **Letters to the Editor** – There was a good letter by George Haeseler based on the Golden Rule.
- 4.2 **Membership** – Sue - Of our 123 members, 21 have not yet renewed. A final renewal notice will be sent out in December.
- 4.3 **World March for Peace** – George Haeseler - \$1130 has been collected and 35 seats are assigned on the bus that will be going to New York City on November 30. George McAnanama reported that the Binghamton City Council passed a resolution in support of the World March. Jack Gilroy will contact Amy Fleming to ask her to send out a press release.
- 4.4 **Israel-Palestine** – Jim Clune – The committee has met and had a good meeting. They have sent a letter to Rep. Maurice Hinchey thanking him for voting no on the house resolution against the Goldstone report. The report is very balanced concerning the attack on Gaza earlier this year. They are working on getting information on divestment and boycott of Israel. Len distributed information on what religious organizations are doing on this issue. There is more information at [www.ameu.org](http://www.ameu.org). There will be a Freedom March from Egypt into Gaza on December 31.

**5 Old Business**

- 5.1 **Chris Hedges talk** – About \$80 was collected from the tabling plus one person joined. Chris gave a talk in Syracuse the next evening where he talked about how we should perform random acts of kindness.

**6 New Business**

- 6.1 **Afghanistan surge plans** – Sue reported on PANYS' plans to have a demonstration when an announcement of a troop increase is made from the White House. A demonstration will be held in New York City. And they may demonstrate also on December 10 when Obama is presented with the Nobel Prize for peace. There followed a discussion on what BCPA should do on Dec. 10. George Haeseler feels that we should be against ANY combat troops in Afghanistan not just a surge. The consensus was that we will concentrate on the Dec. 10 date. A small committee will work on a rally for December 10: Ann Clune, George and Judy Hommanich, Michelle

Dingler, and Susan McAnanama.

- 6.2 **U.S. Peace Memorial** – George Haeseler contacted this organization to find out what they do. They are working on a U.S. Peace Memorial. They are willing to add the names of those honored by our STPMF to their “Peace Registry” if they are submitted along with a brief biography on each and permission obtained from the next of kin. Ann will follow through.
  - 6.3 **Shministim tour** – Len and Jack Gilroy reported on the Jewish Voice for Peace. They are young Israeli people who have refused to serve in the Israeli military. Jack was asked to pursue this to see if we can have them come to our area. Len suggested that there could be a spring series of talks on peace and non-militarism.
  - 6.4 **Drones protesting at Hancock Field in Syracuse** – There were about 300 people there. Ann suggested that we should be working on educating people about the drones.
  - 6.5 **Charter for Compassion** – Len distributed a copy of the Charter for Compassion.
  - 6.6 **Speakers at Peace Action Board Meetings:** Jack Gilroy suggested that Ed Kinane speak at our Dec. meeting. Andrew Epstein is willing to talk about Onondaga land rights.
- 7 **Adjournment at 8:21 pm**
  - 8 **After adjournment we had the following talks:**
    - 8.1 Jim Clune spoke about the demonstration at the White House in October.
    - 8.2 George Haeseler told about his involvement with War Tax Resistance. He has received seven notices from the IRS about his withholding of \$200 from his 2008 income tax.